GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1326
ANSWERED ON:26.02.2003
OVERCHARGING OF RENT
PRAKASH V. PATIL

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Department is over charging rent from the subscribers in rural areas of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the action taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI S MAHAJAN)

(a) No, Sir, The Department of Telecom is no longer a Service Provider of Telecom Services in the country. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), as a Public Sector Unit, is now providing telecom servicesin Maharashtra except in Mumbai (Metro), where Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited (MTNL) provides telecom services. The rent charged by BSNL from the rural subscribers of Maharashtra Circle, expect Mumbai, is as per the tariff applied to rural areas in the rest of the country, within the ceilings set by TRAI. In case of Mumbai, under the jurisdication of MTNL, there is no rural area.

(b) & (c) Do not arise in view of (a) above.